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MANUFACTURING MANAGEMENT

NUMERICAL CONTROL: AN IMPORTANT LINK TO THE FACTORY OF THE FUTURE
TODAY'S MANAGER—PART TWO IN A SERIES:
THE ASSAULT ON THE RANKS OF THE MIDDLE MANAGER
THE CROWDED SKIES OF AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION

MAY 17, 1985 VOL. 228, NO. 10

CHILTON'S
IRON AGE
MANUFACTURING MANAGEMENT

STEEL'S AGONY

Editorial 5
Whatever happened to the import problem?

Newswatch 13
Chrysler goes Asian.

Steel's Agony 19
How steel management is coping.

Numerical Controls 32
An important link to the factory of the future.

Aircraft 38
Internationalization is crowding aircraft skies.

Today's Manager 42
Assault on the ranks of the middle manager.

Machine Tool Report 49
General Motors sizes up domestic builders.

Materials Report 55
The steel market is giving off mixed signals.

Price Trends 60
Producer prices post a moderate rise.

Next Issue: Milestones in American Manufacturing.

Departments

EDITORIAL STAFF	8
SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED	11
INDUSTRIAL BRIEFS	18
AD INDEX	50
BUSINESS STAFF	50
MANAGEMENT SERVICE CARD	51
PRODUCT & EQUIPMENT REVIEW	53
P&P DATA 4/22	56
FERROUS SCRAP 4/22	57
CLEARING HOUSE	58

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PRICE & PRODUCTION DATA

(Effective April 22, 1985)

Steel production by districts, thousands of tons (000 omitted)

	Last Week	Two Weeks Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
Northeast Coast	201	198	192	267
Pittsburgh	236	240	245	292
Youngstown	112	112	111	118
Lake Erie	170	169	170	147
Detroit	140	146	149	186
Chicago	508	510	539	577
Cincinnati	100	107	92	121
St. Louis	65	65	84	85
Southern	226	230	206	233
Western	83	84	99	90
U.S. Production	1,841	1,861	1,887	2,127

Source: American Iron & Steel Institute

Lake Superior Ore Prices

51.50% Fe Natural delivered lower Lake ports. Rail transportation, handling and unloading may be charged to the account of the buyer. Coarse ore 80¢ premium.

Pellets (per iron unit natural) ..... gross-ton 80.50-86.9*
Mesabi, regular-unscreened ..... gross-ton $32.53
Mesabi, non-bessemer ..... gross-ton $30.03-31.53**

*80.50¢—Pickands Mather as of 1/27/81.
86.9¢—U.S. Steel as of 3/15/82. Cleveland-Cliffs as of 2/26/82. Oglebay Norton as of 3/25/82, and Hanna Mining as of 2/26/82.
**Effective 8/1/83.

STEEL PRODUCTION, COMPOSITE PRICES

(Effective April 22, 1985)

U.S. Steel Production	Last Week	Two Weeks Ago	To Date 1985	To Date 1984
Net tons, in thousands	1,841	1,861	27,323	30,840
Capability Utilization Rate	71.8	72.5	67.3	75.2

Composite Prices	This Week	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
Finished Steel Base* (¢/lb.—eff. 7/1/84)	27.582	27.582	27.582	26.939
Pig Iron** (Net ton= 2000 lbs.)	$213.00	$213.00	$213.00	$213.00
Scrap No. 1 hvy.*** (Gross ton=2240 lbs.)	$ 77.50	$ 80.50	$ 86.83	$ 90.17
No. 2 bundles	$ 55.17	$ 55.50	$ 57.50	$ 60.83

Scrap Comparison (Gross Ton)

No. 1 steel, Pittsburgh	$ 79.50	$ 83.50	$ 92.50	$100.50
No. 1 steel, Philadelphia	73.50	78.50	82.50	84.50
No. 1 steel, Chicago	79.50	79.50	85.50	85.50
No. 1 bundles, Detroit	76.50	76.50	87.50	89.50
Low Phos., Youngstown	58.50	68.50	78.50	96.50
No. 1 mach'y cast., Pgh	71.50	71.50	71.50	79.50
No. 1 mach'y cast., Phila	93.50	93.50	98.50	100.50
No. 1 mach'y cast., Chi	111.50	111.50	111.50	117.50

*Finished Steel Composite. Weighted index of steel bars, shapes, plates, wire, rails, black pipe, hot and cold rolled sheets and strips.
**Pig Iron Composite. Based on average prices for basic and foundry pig iron at representative producing points within the U.S.
***Steel Scrap Composite. Average of No. 1 hvy. melting steel scrap and No. 2 bundles delivered to consumers at Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Chicago.

NONFERROUS PRICES

(Effective April 22, 1985) Prices obtained in trade based on representative tonnages per gross ton delivered to consumer unless otherwise stated.

Primary Metal Prices

(cents per lb.)	current price	last price	date of change
Aluminum (LME)	50.40	50.21	4/22/85
Copper (C)	70.00-72.00	70.50-72.00	4/19/85
Lead	20.00-21.00	21.00	4/11/85
Magnesium Ingot	148.00	143.00	5/25/84
Nickel (LME)	246.89	246.85	4/22/85
Titanium Sponge	555.00-585.00	555.00	4/29/82
Zinc	45.00-47.00	45.00	3/22/85

ALUMINUM: Avg. for last week & previous week. COPPER (C) = cathode. LEAD: common grade. MAGNESIUM: 99.8% pig, delivered. NICKEL: Avg. for last week & previous week. ZINC: high grade.

Antimony, American Laredo, Texas	$2.00
Beryllium-aluminum 5% Be, per lb. contained Be	$230.00
Beryllium-copper, per lb. cont. Be	$144.00
Beryllium 97% powder 200	$178.00
Cadmium, ton lots	$1.25-1.55
Calcium, ton lots, crown	$3.76
Chromium, 99.8%	$3.75
Cobalt, 99%, cathode	$12.50
Gold per troy oz.	$327.75
Indium, dollars per troy oz.	$2.50
Iridium, dollars per troy oz.	$500.00
Magnesium sticks, 10,000 lbs.	$2.02
Mercury, per 76-lb. f.o.b. N.Y.	$303.00-312.00
Molybdenum, lb. tech. moly oxides, 20 lb. MO can	$6.85
Nickel electro (PDCR)	$3.29
Palladium, per troy oz.	$113.00
Platinum, per troy oz.	$285.00
Rhodium, per troy oz.	$1,025.00
Silver ingots, per troy oz.	$6.415
Vanadium	$6.00
Zirconium sponge	$12.00-17.00

(Per lb. unless otherwise noted)

Straits Tin Price

(U.S. cents per lb. EX-SMELTER, based on daily market in Penang in Malaysian dollars per kilo.)

April 15—547.61 April 18—547.70
April 16—554.44 April 19—545.17
April 17—551.81

Scrap Prices
Brass Mill Scrap

(Cents per lb; over 20,000 lbs. add 1¢ per lb)

	Solids	Turnings
Copper	64 1/8	55 1/4
Yellow brass	57	49 3/4
Red brass	60 3/8	50 1/4
Comm. bronze	61 1/2	50 1/2
Mang. bronze	51	48
Free cutting rod ends	50	50

Custom Smelters Scrap

(Cents per lb., carload lots, del. refinery)

No. 1 copper wire	57
No. 2 copper wire	48
Light copper	39

Ingot Makers Scrap

(Cents per lb., carload lots, del. refinery)

No. 1 copper wire	53
No. 2 copper wire	44
Light copper	35
No. 1 composition	50
No. 1 comp. turnings	47
Hvy. yellow brass solids	35
Hvy. yellow brass turnings	33
Radiators	39

Aluminum

New mixed clips	34	— 35
Old sheet	32	— 33
Old cast	32	— 33
Clean dry borings	33	— 34

Dealers' Scrap

(Dealers' buying price f.o.b. New York in cents per pound)

Aluminum

Segregated clippings	29	— 30
Mixed I.C. clips	27	— 28
Old sheets and cast	24	— 26
Borings and turnings	22	— 23
Duraluminum clippings	24	— 25

Copper and Brass

No. 1 copper wire	45	— 46
No. 2 copper wire	37	— 38
Light copper	32	— 33
Radiators	31	— 32
No. 1 composition	40	— 41
No. 1 composition turnings	37	— 38
Cocks and faucets	30	— 32
Clean heavy yellow brass	28	— 29
Brass Pipe	28	— 29
New soft brass clippings	41	— 42

Lead

Heavy soft lead	6	— 8
Whole batteries	1	— 3
Type metal	16	— 17
Electrotype	13	— 15

Nickel

Nickel solids	120	—130
Nickel rod ends	120	—130
Nickel sheets, clips	120	—130
Nickel turnings	40	— 45

Zinc

New zinc clippings	17	— 18
Old diecast zinc	13	— 14

EFFECTIVE APRIL 22,1985

(Effective April 22,1985) Prices obtained in trade based on representative tonnages per gross ton delivered to consumer unless otherwise stated. Prices are the opinions of *Iron Age* editors and correspondents, based on contacts with dealers, brokers, generators and users in the industry on the effective date listed above.

Ferrous Scrap Prices

Pittsburgh

No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 79.00 to	$ 80.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	69.00 to	70.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	91.00 to	92.00
No. 1 factory bundles (auto)	92.00 to	93.00
No. 2 bundles	56.00 to	57.00
No. 1 busheling	91.00 to	92.00
Machine shop turnings	10.00 to	11.00
Shoveling turnings	51.00 to	52.00
Cast iron borings	49.00 to	50.00
Low phos. punchings plate	97.00 to	98.00
Heavy turnings	69.00 to	70.00
No. 1 RR hvy. melting	89.00 to	90.00
Rails, 2 ft. and under	108.00 to	109.00
Scrap rails, random lgth	91.00 to	92.00
RR specialties	96.00 to	97.00
No. 1 machinery cast	71.00 to	72.00
Cupola cast	64.00 to	65.00
Heavy breakable cast	30.00 to	31.00
Stainless		
18-8 bundles and solids	610.00 to	615.00
18-8 turnings	510.00 to	515.00

Chicago

No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 79.00 to	$ 80.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	75.00 to	76.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	93.00 to	94.00
No. 1 factory bundles (auto)	93.00 to	94.00
No. 2 dealer bundles	62.00 to	63.00
No. 1 busheling	91.00 to	92.00
Shredder scrap	92.00 to	93.00
Machine shop turnings	46.00 to	47.00
Mixed borings and turnings	47.00 to	48.00
Shoveling turnings	48.00 to	49.00
Cast iron borings	47.00 to	48.00
Low phos. forge crop	113.00 to	114.00
Low phos. punchings plate 1/4 in. and heavier	127.00 to	128.00
Low phos. 2 ft. and under	121.00 to	122.00
No. 1 RR hvy. melting	84.00 to	85.00
Scrap rails random lgth	88.00 to	89.00
Reroller rails	103.00 to	104.00
Rails, 2 ft. and under	117.00 to	118.00
RR couplers and knuckles	98.00 to	99.00
RR car axles	120.00 to	121.00
No. 1 machinery cast	111.00 to	112.00
Cupola cast	102.00 to	103.00
Stove plate	99.00 to	100.00
Steel car wheels	102.00 to	103.00
Stainless		
18-8 bundles and solids	550.00 to	560.00
18-8 turnings	470.00 to	480.00
430 bundles and solids	135.00 to	140.00
430 turnings	105.00 to	110.00

Philadelphia

No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 72.00 to	$ 75.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	62.00 to	65.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	84.00 to	87.00
No. 2 dealer bundles	45.00 to	48.00
No. 1 busheling	84.00 to	87.00
Shredder scrap	87.00 to	90.00
Machine shop turnings	26.00 to	29.00
Mixed borings and turnings	26.00 to	29.00
Shoveling turnings	39.00 to	42.00
Low phos. 5 ft. and under	84.00 to	87.00
Low phos. 2 ft. punchings	102.00 to	105.00
Electric furnace bundles	100.00 to	103.00
RR specialties	84.00 to	87.00
Rails, 2 ft. and under	105.00 to	108.00
Cupola cast	77.00 to	80.00
Heavy breakable cast	53.00 to	56.00
No. 1 machinery cast	92.00 to	95.00

Detroit

Brokers buying prices per gross ton on cars:		
No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 59.00 to	$ 60.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	58.00 to	59.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	76.00 to	77.00
No. 2 bundles	36.00 to	37.00
No. 1 busheling	75.00 to	76.00
Drop forge flashings	50.00 to	51.00
Machine shop turnings	50.00 to	51.00
Mixed borings and turnings	24.00 to	25.00
Shoveling turnings	51.00 to	52.00
Cast iron borings	30.00 to	31.00
Heavy breakable cast	40.00 to	41.00
Mixed cupola cast	55.00 to	56.00
Automobile cast	79.00 to	80.00
Stainless		
18-8 bundles and solids	500.00 to	510.00
18-8 turnings	395.00 to	405.00
430 bundles and solids	115.00 to	125.00

Youngstown

No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 55.00 to	$ 58.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	42.00 to	45.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	67.00 to	70.00
No. 2 dealer bundles	30.00 to	33.00
Machine shop turnings	11.00 to	14.00
Shoveling turnings	16.00 to	19.00
Low phos. plate	57.00 to	60.00
Electric furnace bundles	55.00 to	58.00
Galvanized bundles	47.00 to	50.00

Cleveland

No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 55.00 to	$ 58.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	32.00 to	35.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	64.00 to	67.00
No. 1 factory bundles	59.00 to	62.00
No. 2 bundles	30.00 to	33.00
No. 1 busheling	66.00 to	69.00
Machine shop turnings	16.00 to	19.00
Mixed borings and turnings	13.00 to	16.00
Shoveling turnings	18.00 to	21.00
Cast iron borings	15.00 to	18.00
Cut structural & plates, 2 ft. and under	97.00 to	100.00
Low phos. punchings plate	97.00 to	100.00
Drop forge flushings	43.00 to	46.00
Foundry steel, 2 ft. & under	78.00 to	81.00
No. 1 RR hvy. melting	79.00 to	82.00
Rails, 2 ft. and under	115.00 to	118.00
Rails, 18 in. and under	116.00 to	119.00
Steel axle turnings	56.00 to	59.00
Railroad cast	87.00 to	90.00
No. 1 machinery cast	102.00 to	105.00
Cupola cast	55.00 to	58.00
Stove plate	57.00 to	60.00
Stainless		
18-8 bundles	375.00 to	385.00
18-8 turnings	325.00 to	335.00
430 bundles	80.00 to	85.00

Buffalo

Brokers buying prices per gross ton on cars:		
No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 61.00 to	$ 62.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	50.00 to	51.00
No. 1 busheling	72.00 to	73.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	71.00 to	72.00
No. 2 bundles	37.00 to	38.00
Machine shop turnings	18.00 to	19.00
Mixed boring and turnings	18.00 to	19.00
Shoveling turnings	32.00 to	33.00
Cast iron borings	28.00 to	29.00
Low phos. plate	88.00 to	89.00
Structural and plate 2 ft. and under	89.00 to	90.00
Rails, 2 ft. and under	91.00 to	92.00
Scrap rails, random lgth	70.00 to	71.00
No. 1 machinery cast	76.00 to	77.00
No. 1 cupola cast	58.00 to	59.00

St. Louis

No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 65.00 to	$ 66.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	52.00 to	53.00
Foundry steel, 2 ft.	60.00 to	61.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	65.00 to	66.00
No. 2 bundles	47.00 to	48.00
Machine shop turnings	17.00 to	18.00
Shoveling turnings	23.00 to	24.00
Cast iron borings	28.00 to	29.00
No. 1 RR hvy. melting	66.00 to	67.00
Rails, random length	66.00 to	67.00
Rails, 18 in. and under	82.00 to	83.00
RR specialties	81.00 to	82.00
Cupola cast	76.00 to	77.00
Heavy breakable cast	54.00 to	55.00
Stove plate	91.00 to	92.00
Steel car wheels	96.00 to	97.00
Rerolling rails	78.00 to	79.00
Unstripped motor blocks	63.00 to	64.00

Birmingham

No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 73.00 to	$ 74.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	69.00 to	70.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	74.00 to	75.00
No. 2 bundles	48.00 to	49.00
No. 1 busheling	74.00 to	75.00
Shredder scrap	97.00 to	98.00
Machine shop turnings	27.00 to	28.00
Shoveling turnings	40.00 to	41.00
Cast iron borings	37.00 to	38.00
Electric furnace bundles	70.00 to	71.00
Elec. furnace, 3 ft. & under	70.00 to	71.00
Structural and plate, 2 ft.	97.00 to	98.00
Structural and plate, 4 ft.	92.00 to	93.00
No. 1 RR hvy. melting	92.00 to	93.00
Scrap rails, random lgth	84.00 to	85.00
Rails, 2 ft. and under	101.00 to	102.00
Angles and splice bars	90.00 to	91.00
No. 1 cupola cast	87.00 to	88.00
Unstripped motor blocks	75.00 to	76.00

Cincinnati

Brokers buying prices per gross ton on cars:		
No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 51.00 to	$ 52.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	46.00 to	47.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	57.00 to	58.00
No. 2 bundles	25.00 to	26.00
Machine shop turnings	5.00 to	6.00
Shoveling turnings	7.00 to	8.00
Cast iron borings	16.00 to	17.00
Low phos. 18 in. and under	83.00 to	84.00
Rails, random length	62.00 to	63.00
Rails, 2 ft. and under	77.00 to	78.00
No. 1 cupola cast	59.00 to	60.00
Heavy breakable cast	25.00 to	26.00
Drop broken cast	73.00 to	74.00

New York

Brokers buying prices per gross ton on cars:		
No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 47.00 to	$ 48.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	38.00 to	39.00
No. 2 dealer bundles	23.00 to	27.00
Mixed borings and turnings	11.00 to	13.00
Machine shop turnings	6.00 to	7.00
Shoveling turnings	14.00 to	15.00
Clean cast, chem. borings	35.00 to	36.00
No. 1 machinery cast	89.00 to	90.00
Mixed yard cast	50.00 to	51.00
Heavy breakable cast	10.00 to	12.00
Stainless		
18-8 prepared solids	505.00 to	525.00
18-8 turnings	405.00 to	425.00
430 prepared solids	90.00 to	110.00
410 solids	80.00 to	90.00

Boston

Brokers buying prices per gross ton on cars:		
No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 55.00 to	$ 57.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	45.00 to	47.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	58.00 to	59.00
No. 2 bundles	33.00 to	35.00
No. 1 busheling	68.00 to	70.00
Shredder scrap	65.00 to	67.00
Machine shop turnings	10.00 to	12.00
Shoveling turnings	18.00 to	20.00
No. 1 machinery cast	79.00 to	84.00
Mixed cupola cast	46.00 to	48.00
Heavy breakable cast	8.00 to	10.00

San Francisco

No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 42.00 to	$ 44.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	36.00 to	38.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	33.00 to	35.00
No. 2 dealer bundles	19.00 to	21.00
Machine shop turnings	8.00 to	9.00
Cast iron borings	8.00 to	9.00
No. 1 cupola cast	81.00 to	83.00

Los Angeles

No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 45.00 to	$ 47.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	38.00 to	40.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	36.00 to	38.00
No. 2 dealer bundles	19.00 to	21.00
Machine shop turnings	13.00 to	14.00
Shoveling turnings	10.00 to	11.00
Cast iron borings	8.00 to	9.00
Elec. furnace, 1 ft. and under (foundry)	74.00 to	76.00
No. 1 cupola cast	75.00 to	77.00

Seattle

No. 1 hvy. melting	64.00 to	66.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	55.00 to	57.00
No. 2 bundles	38.00 to	40.00
No. 1 cupola cast	92.00 to	93.00
Mixed yard cast	82.00 to	84.00

Hamilton, Ont.

Brokers buying prices per gross ton on cars:	
No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 86.00
No. 2 hvy. melting, cut 2 ft. and under	78.00
No. 1 dealer bundles	84.00
No. 2 bundles	62.00
Mixed steel scrap	60.00
Bush. new fact. prep'd	86.00
Bush. new fact. unprep'd	75.00
Machine shop turnings	37.00
Short steel turnings	37.00
Mixed borings and turnings	25.00
Cast scrap	95.00

Houston

Brokers buying prices per gross ton on cars:		
No. 1 hvy. melting	$ 75.00 to	$ 76.00
No. 2 hvy. melting	61.00 to	62.00
No. 2 bundles	46.00 to	47.00
Machine shop turnings	17.00 to	18.00
Crushed turnings	34.00 to	35.00
Shredder scrap	83.00 to	84.00
Cut structural plate, 2 ft. and under	103.00 to	104.00
Cut structural plate, 5 ft. and under	86.00 to	87.00
Unstripped motor blocks	60.00 to	61.00
Cupola cast	87.00 to	88.00

PRODUCER PRICES POST A MODERATE RISE

The nation's huge trade deficit and strong dollar are affecting its manufacturing sector. One result is relatively stable producer prices.

March producer prices edged up 0.2 pct, following a 0.1 pct drop in February and no change in January. Inflation at the wholesale level has risen only 0.3 pct in the last year, the smallest gain in 20 years, the U.S. Commerce Department said.

Oversupplies of oil and food continue to be the main stabilizing influences on the overall level of prices. As shown by the data at right, 16 of the 22 categories covered rose in March. Among the notable declines, however, was a drop of 0.1 pct in auto prices.

Based on the first quarter trend, analysts believe there is little reason to expect any acceleration of inflation in the prices of goods. Prices of intermediate goods, those which still require some processing, and of crude goods both declined in March for the third consecutive month.

Capital equipment prices continued to rise, moving up 2.5 pct before seasonal adjustment and 0.4 pct after seasonal variations are taken into account, Commerce said.

In the durable manufacturing materials category, decreases for copper, lead, gold and silver were partly offset by higher prices for zinc. For crude goods, ferrous scrap prices turned up after falling in February and a decrease registered for aluminum base scrap was smaller than in the previous month. Prices decreased for copper base scrap.

Meanwhile, domestic inventories grew 0.4 pct in February, the latest month for which data is available. Economists are watching inventories to see if slow demand is creating backed-up supplies large enough to shut down new orders. Currently, most analysts are not yet concerned about inventory overhang.

Latest Month Covered: March 1985

Products	Index Reading For Month (1967 = 100)	Pct Change From Previous Month	Pct Change From Year-Ago Month
Metal Cutting Machine Tools	395.9	+ 1.5	+ 3.7
Metal Forming Machine Tools	432.9	+ 0.2	+ 3.1
Agricultural Machinery & Equip.	339.0	+ 0.2	+ 1.8
Construction Machinery & Equip.	361.8	0	+ 1.8
Industrial Process Furnace & Ovens	383.6	+ 0.3	+ 3.5
Industrial Material Handling Equip.	294.0	+ 0.4	+ 2.3
Pumps, Compressors & Allied Equip.	355.8	+ 0.8	+ 2.3
Fluid Power Equip. (Dec. 1970 = 100)	263.0	+ 0.2	+ 2.3
Mechanical Power Transmission Equip.	335.3	+ 0.1	+ 4.0
Automobiles	227.0	— 0.1	+ 2.2
Motor Trucks—Light	296.2	0	+ 5.3
Motor Trucks—Heavy	332.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.8
Railroad Equipment	362.7	+ 0.3	+ 3.0
Fabricated Metal Structural Products	314.3	+ 0.3	+ 1.9
Electric Motors	350.1	+ 0.5	+ 3.6
Valves & Fittings (Dec. 1982 = 100)	104.3	+ 0.2	+ 3.2
Ball & Roller Bearings	347.3	+ 0.4	+ 3.0
Cutting Tools & Accessories	285.7	+ 0.2	+ 2.8
Heating Equipment	257.3	0	+ 3.5
Plumbing Fixtures & Brass Fittings	307.9	+ 0.3	+ 2.7
Metal Containers	357.5	— 0.2	+ 3.5
Miscellaneous Metal Products	301.9	0	+ 3.4

Data based on U.S. Labor Dept.'s Producer Price Index